

VZCZCXRO9914  
RR RUEHCI  
DE RUEHKA #4339 1970910  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 160910Z JUL 06  
FM AMEMBASSY DHAKA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9750  
INFO RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 0033  
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 7503  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 1197  
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 8607  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1489  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 9210  
RUEHNC/AMEMBASSY NICOSIA 0057  
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 0122  
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

UNCLAS DHAKA 004339

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA, SCA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PTER](#) [PGOV](#) [ASEC](#) [BG](#) [IS](#) [LE](#)

SUBJECT: BANGLADESH: LIMITED REACTION TO HOSTILITIES  
BETWEEN ISRAEL AND LEBANON

11. Bangladeshi reaction to the hostilities between Israel and Lebanon has thus far been muted. Responding to media questions, a spokesman for the MFA condemned Israeli attacks and called on Israel to halt its "aggressive" actions. The BDG has not issued a formal statement.

12. Media reporting is largely drawn from the major wire services. Although most Bangladeshi newspapers have not yet commented on the hostilities, those that have are critical of the U.S. for failing to condemn Israel. (Media reaction reported septel.)

13. Sources reported a few small protests following Friday prayers (July 14), with the largest attracting fewer than 1500 participants. By contrast, a rally that day by garment workers calling for implementation of recent labor agreements drew 3,500-4,000 participants. The Islamic Constitution Movement held a small protest on July 15 and burned an Israeli flag. They have announced another protest for July 17. Of the six public rallies announced for July 16, none was organized to protest the Israeli actions in Lebanon.  
BUTENIS